Amendments to the Claims

A complete list of pending claims follows, with indicated amendments:

1.   (Currently Amended) A method for configuring the software of a <u>headless</u> USB-compliant server computer of a computer network, comprising the steps of:

coupling a communications link between the <u>headless</u> server computer and a configuration computer, the communications link coupled at a USB port of each of the <u>headless</u> server computer and the configuration computer;

establishing data communication between the <u>headless</u> server computer and the configuration computer through the communications link and the USB ports of the <u>headless</u> server computer and configuration computer; and

communicating data between the <u>headless</u> server computer and the configuration computer to configure the software of the <u>headless</u> server computer.

2.   (Currently Amended) The method for configuring the software of a <u>headless</u> USB-compliant server computer of claim 1, wherein the step of establishing data communication between the <u>headless</u> server computer and the configuration computer comprises the steps of,

transmitting from the configuration computer to the <u>headless</u> server computer a query concerning the identity of the <u>headless</u> server computer; and

receiving from the <u>headless</u> server computer data indicative of the identity of the <u>headless</u> server computer.

3.   (Currently Amended) The method for configuring the software of a <u>headless</u> USB-compliant server computer of claim 2, further comprising the step of determining at the configuration computer whether the <u>headless</u> server computer is a USB-compliant device.

4.   (Currently Amended) The method for configuring the software of a <u>headless</u> USB-compliant server computer of claim 3, further comprising the step of performing a configuration routine at the configuration computer on the basis of the identity of the <u>headless</u>

server computer to permit the configuration computer to communicate with the <u>headless</u> server computer if the <u>headless</u> server computer is determined to be USB-compliant.

5. (Currently Amended) The method for configuring the software of a <u>headless</u> USB-compliant server computer of claim 4, further comprising the step of initiating configuration application software at the configuration computer.

6. (Currently Amended) The method for configuring the software of a <u>headless</u> USB-compliant server computer of claim 5, further comprising the steps of communicating between the configuration computer and the <u>headless</u> server computer to cause the <u>headless</u> server computer to initiate configuration application software at the configuration computer to permit data communication between the configuration computer and the <u>headless</u> server computer.

7. (Currently Amended) The method for configuring the software of a <u>headless</u> USB-compliant server computer of claim 1, wherein the configuration computer is a portable computer.

8. (Currently Amended) The method for configuring the software of a <u>headless</u> USB-compliant server computer of claim 1, wherein the configuration computer is a palmtop computer.

9. (Cancelled).

10. (Cancelled).

11. (Cancelled).

12. (Cancelled).

13. (Cancelled).

14. (Cancelled).

15. (Cancelled).

16. (Cancelled).

17. (Cancelled).

18. (Cancelled).

19. (Cancelled).

20. (Cancelled).

21. (Currently Amended) A method for configuring the software of a <u>headless</u> server computer, the <u>headless</u> server computer having the ability to transmit data according to a data transmission protocol that accommodates hot-swapping of peripherals and automatic identification of peripherals capability, comprising:

coupling a communications link between the <u>headless</u> server computer and a configuration computer, the communications link coupled at a port of each of the <u>headless</u> server computer and the configuration computer, the port having the capability of transmitting data according to the data transmission protocol;

establishing data communication between the <u>headless</u> server computer and the configuration computer through communications link and the ports of the <u>headless</u> server computer and the configuration computer; and

communicating data between the <u>headless</u> server computer and the configuration computer to configure the software of the <u>headless</u> server computer.

22. (Currently Amended) The method for configuring the software of the <u>headless</u> server computer of claim 21, wherein the step of establishing data communication between the <u>headless</u> server computer and the configuration computer comprises the steps of:

transmitting data from the configuration computer to the <u>headless</u> server computer a query concerning the identity of the <u>headless</u> server computer; and

receiving from the <u>headless</u> server computer data indicative of the identity of the <u>headless</u> server computer.

23. (Currently Amended) The method for configuring the software of the <u>headless</u> server computer of claim 22, further comprising the step of determining at the configuration computer whether the <u>headless</u> server computer has the ability to transmit data according to the data transmission protocol.

24. (Currently Amended) The method for configuring the software of the <u>headless</u> server computer of claim 22, further comprising the step of performing a configuration routine at the configuration computer on the basis of the identity of the <u>headless</u> server computer to permit the configuration computer to communicate with the <u>headless</u> server computer if the <u>headless</u> server computer is determined to have the ability to transmit data according to the data transmission protocol.

25. (Currently Amended) The method for configuring the software of the <u>headless</u> server computer of claim 24, further comprising the step of initiating configuration application software at the configuration computer.

26. (Currently Amended) The method for configuring the software of the <u>headless</u> server computer of claim 25, further comprising the steps of communicating between the configuration computer and the <u>headless</u> server computer to cause the <u>headless</u> server computer to initiate configuration application software at the configuration computer to permit data communication between the configuration computer and the <u>headless</u> server computer using a graphical user interface.